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PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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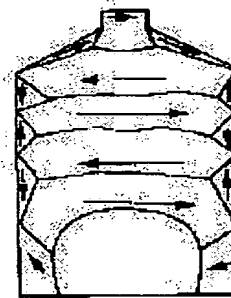
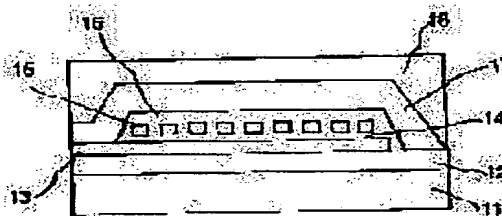
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OIKAWA GEN

(54) THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND MAGNETIC RECORDING/ REPRODUCING DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a proper magnetic domain structure of a core by forming a groove on an insulation film formed on a coil in the direction vertical to the opposite surface and leading the magnetic domain parallel to the opposite surface.

SOLUTION: The insulation film 16 formed on the coil 15 and an upper part magnetic film 17 formed on the film 16 tends to cause ruggedness in the direction parallel to the opposite surface due to the influence of the level difference of a coil. Therefore, the thin film magnetic heads having the magnetic domain structure that magnetization tends to turn vertically to the opposite surface become more. On the contrary, the groove is formed in the direction vertical to the opposite surface by using an ion beam after the insulation film 16 is formed. The sizes of the groove become e.g. width of nearly 1 μ m, depth of nearly 80nm and a gap of the width of 1 μ m. When the upper part magnetic film 17 is formed on the film 16 by a frame plating method, the magnetic domain structure such as figure A is obtained. This is considered as that stress acts parallel to the opposite surface because of the formation of the groove. Thus, the magnetic domain structure of the magnetic core is improved.



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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] A lower magnetic film and the above-mentioned up magnetic film which is formed on the above-mentioned lower magnetic film, and the end is in contact with the end of a lower magnetic film, and the other end counters the other end of the above-mentioned lower magnetic film through a magnetic gap, and forms a magnetic circuit, In the thin film magnetic head which consists of a coil of the number of predetermined winding which intersects a magnetic core through the film insulated electrically and by which the above-mentioned up magnetic film was formed at least with electroplating among both the above-mentioned magnetic films The thin film magnetic head characterized by forming the above-mentioned up magnetic film on the insulator layer which formed the slot perpendicularly to the opposed face.

[Claim 2] The thin film magnetic head whose nickel presentation the above-mentioned magnetic film consists of an alloy which uses nickel and Fe as a principal component in claim 1, and is 40 - 60wt%.

[Claim 3] In claim 1 or claim 2 the nickel⁺⁺ metal ion of a plating bath and a Fe⁺⁺ metal ion density range It is the plating bath which consists of a solvent whose ratio of concentration (nickel⁺⁺/Fe⁺⁺) of a nickel⁺⁺ metal ion and a Fe⁺⁺ metal ion it is 5 - 20 g/l and 0.5 - 2.7 g/l, respectively, and is 6-8. And the thin film magnetic head in which the stress relaxation agent and the surfactant are added and the magnetic film was formed from the plating bath whose pH is 2.5 to 3.5, and whenever [bath temperature / whose] is 20-40 degrees C.

[Claim 4] The addition of the element of less than [15wt%] and others is the thin film magnetic head whose addition of Co at least one kind of element chosen as a nickel-Fe alloy from Co, Cr, Mo, Pd, B, In, and W is added in claims 1, 2, or 3, and is less than [3wt%] in a total amount.

[Claim 5] The compound-die magnetic head which combined the above-mentioned thin film magnetic head according to claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 and a multilayer magneto-resistive effect component.

[Claim 6] The magnetic recorder and reproducing device which carried the above-mentioned magnetic head according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the magnetic head corresponding to high magnetic recording density, and a magnetic recorder and reproducing device.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In recent years, the thin film magnetic head recordable on the medium of high coercive force is demanded with the raise in the recording density of a magnetic disk drive. For that purpose, it is necessary to use for the core materials of the magnetic head the ingredient which has high saturation magnetic flux density, and was excellent in the RF property. For a current thin film magnetic-head ingredient, although a permalloy (78wt%nickel-Fe alloy) is well-known, saturation magnetic flux density is 1.0T. Low, since specific resistance is as low as 20microomegacm extent, eddy current loss is large and there is a problem to which the record magnetic field strength in a RF field falls. Moreover, as other ingredients, the amorphous ingredient is thermally unstable, although Co system amorphous ingredient, Sendust (Fe-aluminum-Si alloy), etc. are mentioned, since Sendust needs heat treatment of about 500 degrees C, a problem is on a magnetic-head process, and it has not resulted in utilization.

[0003] Moreover, the magnetic film formed as a thin film head ingredient corresponding to a RF by the sputtering method which added Nb, Ta, Cr, Mo, etc. into the 40-55wt%nickel-Fe alloy is proposed (JP,3-68744,A). However, crystal grain will become large if 2 micrometers or more of this film are formed by the sputtering method. Since this film has the big crystal magnetic anisotropy, it has the problem that magnetic properties will deteriorate.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] It is required for the magnetic disk drive which has high magnetic recording density to use the thin film magnetic head using the ingredient with which it has high saturation magnetic flux density, and record magnetic field strength does not fall by the RF. The 40-60wt%nickel-Fe alloy produced by the galvanizing method is 1.4T. It has the above high saturation magnetic flux density, and even if it forms the no less than 5 micrometers thick film, magnetic properties do not deteriorate. Moreover, more than 30microomegacm and since specific resistance is also high, its eddy current loss is small. However, the magnetostriction constant of a nickel-Fe alloy is 40/107. It is high. For this reason, it is easy to be influenced of the irregularity of a magnetic-core configuration and a plating side etc., and when a magnetic core is produced by the galvanizing method which big stress commits on the film, good magnetic-domain structure is hard to be acquired. For this reason, it is difficult to record on the medium which has high coercive force in a RF field.

[0005] The purpose of this invention is to offer the solution approach of the problem of the thin film magnetic head.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] this invention person etc. came to complete a header and this invention for the magnetic domain which was suitable in parallel to the opposed face by forming a 40-60wt%nickel-Fe alloy by the galvanizing method on the insulator layer which formed the slot perpendicularly to the opposed face as a result of doing sincerity research being stabilized, and being formed about the magnetic-core ingredient in the thin film magnetic head.

[0007] That is, when using for the magnetic core of the thin film magnetic head the 40-60wt%

nickel-Fe alloy produced by the galvanizing method, membranous stress can be applied in parallel to an opposed face by forming on the insulator layer which formed the slot perpendicularly to the opposed face. The thin film magnetic head to which the proper magnetic-domain structure which magnetization of the main magnetic domain turned to in parallel to the opposed face is acquired in response to membranous stress, and the 40-60wt%nickel-Fe alloy which has a forward big magnetostriction constant by this can respond to a RF is obtained.

[0008] Moreover, still higher saturation magnetic flux density is obtained by adding Co into a nickel-Fe alloy. Moreover, by adding elements, such as Mo, Cr, Pd, B, In, and W, specific resistance becomes high and eddy current loss falls. According to such effectiveness, the thin film magnetic head which has still higher frequency characteristics is obtained.

[0009] Furthermore, a magnetic recorder and reproducing device with high magnetic recording density is obtained by using the thin film magnetic head.

[0010]

[Embodiment of the Invention]

(Example 1) The presentation of the magnetic film which metal ion concentration was changed to drawing 1, and was galvanized, and the relation of saturation magnetic flux density, electrical resistivity, and a magnetostriction constant are shown. Here, the plating bath changed the concentration of nickel++ using the bath shown in Table 1. Here, in pH, 30 degrees C and plating current density made whenever [3.0 and bath temperature] 15 mA/cm², and thickness could be about 3.0 micrometers.

[0011]

[Table 1]

表 1

N i C l ₂ • 6 H ₂ O	3 4 . 7 g / l
N i S O ₄ • 6 H ₂ O	1 6 . 5 g / l
F e S O ₄ • 7 H ₂ O	7 . 3 g / l
H ₃ B O ₄	2 5 g / l
N a C l	2 5 g / l
サッカリンNa	1 . 5 g / l
ラウリル硫酸Na	0 . 1 g / l

[0012] Saturation magnetic flux density is 1.4T in the field whose nickel content is 40 - 60wt% as shown in drawing 1. Electrical resistivity is excellent above as compared with more than 30microomegacm and the permalloy film known well conventionally. Moreover, coercive force is also as low as below 1.0 Oe. However, for the nickel-Fe alloy film of this example, a magnetostriction constant is +40/107. It is high with the above. For pH, the range of 2.5-3.5 and current density are [such a property] 5 - 30 mA/cm². Whenever [range and bath temperature] did not change a lot, although it was made to change in 20-40 degrees C.

[0013] The cross section of the thin film magnetic head is shown in drawing 2. The ceramic substrate which fully ground the front face and washed it was used for the substrate 11. On a substrate 11, it is 2.8 micrometers in thickness as a lower magnetic film 12. The permalloy (78wt%nickel-Fe) thin film containing nitrogen was produced by the RF-sputtering method. 1.0T and a magnetostriction constant the magnetic properties of the nickel-Fe film containing this nitrogen - It was 1.0/107. [coercive force] [0.5 Oe and saturation magnetic flux density] By ion milling, the spatter of the magnetic gap film 13 which becomes from aluminum 2O3 after patterning about the lower magnetic film 12 at a predetermined configuration was carried out, and patterning was performed by the ion milling method. Next, patterning of the insulator layer 14 which consists of a photoresist was carried out to the predetermined configuration by spreading, exposure, development, and heat treatment. The coil 15 which consists of Cu on an insulator layer 14 was carried out after production, and patterning of the insulator layer 16 was carried out to formation and a predetermined configuration by the galvanizing method. On the insulator layer 16, the up magnetic film 17 which consists of a nickel-Fe alloy with a thickness of 3 micrometers was formed by the frame galvanizing method. The protective coat 18 which becomes the last from aluminum 2O3 was formed.

[0014] The forming method by the frame galvanizing method of the up magnetic film 17 is shown in drawing 3. On the substrate 21 (it is equivalent to 16 of drawing 1), in order to raise the adhesion of a substrate and a magnetic film, the permalloy magnetism substrate film 23 which contained the nitrogen of 80nm thickness as an electrode for galvanizing the Cr layer 22 of 30nm thickness further was formed by the RF-sputtering method. Next, the frame 24 was formed by the photoresist and the nickel-Fe alloy magnetic film 25 of 3-micrometer thickness was formed with electroplating (a). The plating magnetic film after plating and in a frame is covered by the photoresist 26, the plating film of (b) and a frame outside is removed using chemical etching, and the up resist 26 and a frame 24 are removed (c). The presentation shown in Table 1 was used for the plating bath at this time. Thereby, the presentation of the formed magnetic film was 46wt%nickel-Fe. the place which investigated the magnetic properties of this nickel-Fe alloy -- coercive force -- 0.5Oe(s) and saturation magnetic flux density -- 1.62T and a magnetostriction constant -- +50/107 it was .

[0015] Thus, the magnetic-domain structure of the up core in the produced thin film magnetic head was observed. Magnetic-domain structure is shown in drawing 4. Usually, when the thin film magnetic head is produced by such approach, the up magnetic film 17 formed the insulator layer 16 formed on the coil 15 and on this is influenced of a coil level difference, and irregularity tends to produce it in parallel to an opposed face. For this reason, membranous stress is perpendicularly committed to an opposed face, and it becomes easy for a magnetostriction constant to be forward, and to turn to magnetization, when a big magnetic film is used perpendicularly to an opposed face. Therefore, the thin film magnetic head which has magnetic-domain structure as shown in drawing 4 increases.

[0016] On the other hand, the slot was perpendicularly formed to the opposed face after forming an insulator layer 16 using the ion beam. Magnitude of a slot was set into 1 micrometer of ****, and the depth was set to about 80nm. Moreover, spacing of width of face was set to 1 micrometer. When the up magnetic film 17 was besides similarly formed by the frame galvanizing method and magnetic-domain structure was observed, as shown in drawing 5, magnetization was suitable in parallel to the opposed face, namely, many thin film magnetic heads which have proper magnetic-domain structure were obtained. This is considered to be because for stress to work in parallel to an opposed face by having formed the slot.

[0017] It investigated frequency dependent [of the standardized record magnetic field strength] using the thin film magnetic head of this invention with the magnetic-domain structure shown in drawing 5. This is shown in drawing 6. The ingredient which consists of a Co-Cr-Pt system alloy of residual magnetic flux density 2500Oe was used for the magnetic-recording medium. Moreover, the width of recording track of the magnetic head was set to 3 micrometers. As shown in drawing, as compared with the conventional permalloy thin film head, saturation magnetic flux density and high 40 - 60 nickel-Fe alloy thin film head of electrical resistivity have a record field also with a high RF. Furthermore, by rationalizing magnetic-domain structure showed that the record engine performance excellent also in the RF field 70MHz or more was shown like this invention. Furthermore, as for record magnetic field strength, even the frequency of 90MHz falls only about 15%.

[0018] Although the slot is formed by irradiating an ion beam in this example, irregularity may be formed using the other approaches. Moreover, when the ease of production is taken into consideration, as for the magnitude of a slot, it is desirable to make it width of face of 0.1 micrometers - 10 micrometers, a depth of 50nm - 0.5 micrometers, and slot spacing of 0.1 micrometers - about 10 micrometers.

[0019] (Example 2) Many properties of a nickel-Fe-Co thin film with a thickness of 3 micrometers which adds CoSO₄.7H₂O to the plating bath shown in the example 1, and is produced were evaluated. Change of the saturation magnetic flux density to Co addition is shown in drawing 7. As shown in drawing, addition of Co increases saturation magnetic flux density. however, it is shown in drawing 8 -- as -- Co -- more than 15wt% -- if it adds, electrical resistivity will decrease greatly and will be set to 30 or less microomegacm. Co -- more than 15wt% -- since the effectiveness which saturation magnetic flux density increased by the effectiveness of eddy current loss becoming large is lost when the added magnetic film is used for the thin film magnetic head, it is not desirable.

[0020] (Example 3) Many properties of a nickel-Fe-Cr thin film with a thickness of 3 micrometers which adds $\text{CrCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ to the plating bath shown in the example 1, and is produced were evaluated. Change of the electrical resistivity to Cr addition is shown in drawing 9. As shown in drawing, when Cr addition is more than 2wt%, electrical resistivity with high 60microomegacm extent is obtained. however -- if Cr addition dependency of the saturation magnetic flux density of drawing 10 is seen -- Cr -- more than 3wt% -- if it adds -- saturation magnetic flux density -- large -- falling -- 1.4T It becomes the following. For this reason, it is not desirable to add more than 3wt%Cr.

[0021] Although this example described the case where Cr was added, the same effectiveness is acquired also when Mo, Pd, B, In, and W are added.

[0022] (Example 4) The record playback discrete-type head was produced using the thin film magnetic head shown in the example 1. The structure of the magnetic head is shown below. Drawing 11 is a perspective view at the time of cutting a part of magnetic head. The part which sandwiched the magneto-resistive effect film 31 in the shielding layers 32 and 33 works as the reproducing head. Moreover, the shielding layer 33 serves also as the lower magnetic pole of a recording head, and the parts of the shielding layer 33 which sandwiches a coil 34, and the up magnetic pole 35 work as a recording head. This recording head is the thin film magnetic head given in an example 1. Moreover, the ingredient of the multilayer structure of Cr/Cu/Cr was used for the electrode 38.

[0023] The production approach of this head is shown below.

[0024] The sintered compact which uses aluminum 2O_3 and TiC as a principal component was used as the substrate 36 for sliders. The permalloy containing the nitrogen formed by the sputtering method was used for the shielding layers 32 and 33. It was made for the thickness of each magnetic film to be the following. The up-and-down shielding layers 32 and 33 used aluminum 2O_3 in which 2.0 micrometers and the up magnetic pole 36 formed the gap material between 3.0 micrometers and each class by sputtering. The thickness of a gap layer could be 0.4 micrometers between 0.2 micrometers and a record magnetic pole between the shielding layer and the magneto-resistive effect component. The permalloy film with a thickness of 20nm was used for the magneto-resistive effect film 31. Cu of 1 micrometer of thickness was used for the coil 34.

[0025] By the magnetic head of the structure described above, when record playback was performed, it turned out that RF record of 70MHz or more is possible for a maximum output frequency. This is considered to be because for the magnetic head by this invention to have been used for the magnetic head.

[0026] In this example, the up shielding layer 33 can also be formed using the galvanizing method, although the sputtering method is used.

[0027] (Example 5) The magnetic disk drive was produced using the magnetic head of this invention stated in the example 2. The schematic diagram of the structure of a magnetic disk drive is shown in drawing 12.

[0028] The ingredient which consists of a Co-Cr-Pt system alloy of residual magnetic flux density 2500Oe was used for the record layer of the magnetic-recording medium 41. The width of recording track of the recording head of the magnetic head 43 is 2.5 micrometers. The width of recording track of the reproducing head was set to 2 micrometers. As compared with the recording head which used the conventional permalloy, it has high resistance and high saturation magnetic flux density, and since the magnetic-domain structure of a magnetic pole is good, the magnetic-core ingredient of the recording head in the magnetic head 43 can produce the magnetic disk drive corresponding to high frequency. The magnetic head of this invention has a maximum output frequency effective in the magnetic recorder and reproducing device which is 70MHz or more.

[0029]

[Effect of the Invention] A lower magnetic film and the up magnetic film which is formed on a lower magnetic film, and the end is in contact with the end of a lower magnetic film, and the other end counters the other end of a lower magnetic film through a magnetic gap, and forms a magnetic circuit, By the thin film magnetic head which is the thin film magnetic head which consists of a coil of the number of predetermined winding which intersects a magnetic core

through the film insulated electrically and by which the up magnetic film was formed with electroplating among both magnetic films Even if it uses the magnetic film which has a big magnetostriction constant by forming a magnetic film on the insulator layer in which the slot was formed perpendicularly, to an opposed face, the magnetic-domain structure of a magnetic core becomes good. Thereby, the 40-60wt%nickel-Fe alloy film which has high resistance and high saturation magnetic flux density can be used for a recording head. Moreover, the magnetic head whose maximum output frequency is 70MHz or more is producible by using this recording head. Furthermore, a high performance magnetic recorder and reproducing device can be obtained by using the magnetic head.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] The explanatory view of change of the saturation magnetic flux density to nickel content, electrical resistivity, and a magnetostriction constant.

[Drawing 2] The sectional view of the thin film magnetic head.

[Drawing 3] The explanatory view of the frame galvanizing method.

[Drawing 4] The explanatory view of the magnetic-domain structure of the up core by the conventional method.

[Drawing 5] The explanatory view of the magnetic-domain structure of the up core by this invention.

[Drawing 6] The frequency dependent property Fig. of record magnetic field strength using the thin film magnetic head of this invention.

[Drawing 7] The property Fig. of change of the saturation magnetic flux density to Co addition.

[Drawing 8] The property Fig. of change of the electrical resistivity to Co addition.

[Drawing 9] The property Fig. of change of the electrical resistivity to Cr addition.

[Drawing 10] The property Fig. of change of the saturation magnetic flux density to Cr addition.

[Drawing 11] The perspective view of the magnetic head using the thin film magnetic head of this invention.

[Drawing 12] The explanatory view of the magnetic disk drive using the thin film magnetic head of this invention.

[Description of Notations]

11 [— An insulator layer, 15 / -- A coil, 17 / -- Up magnetic film.] -- A substrate, 12 -- A lower magnetic film, 13 -- 14 The magnetic gap film, 16

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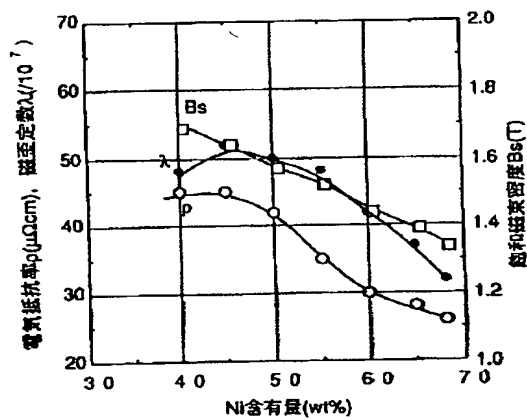
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DRAWINGS

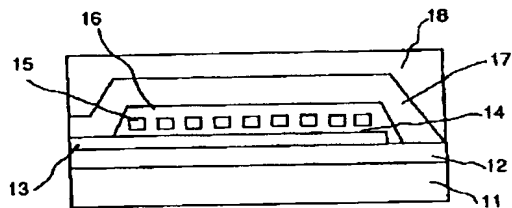
[Drawing 1]

図 1



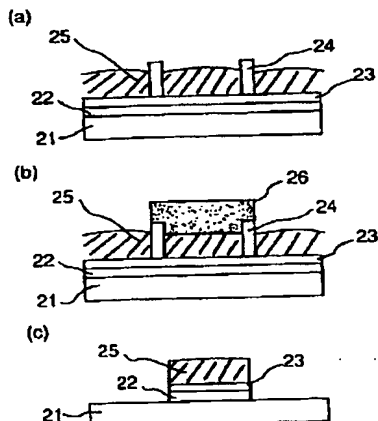
[Drawing 2]

図 2



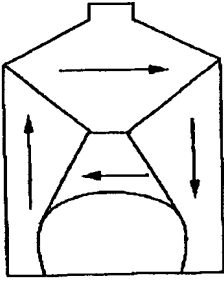
[Drawing 3]

図 3



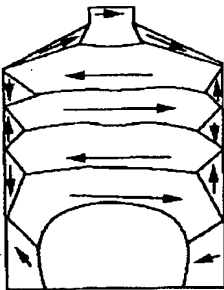
[Drawing 4]

図 4



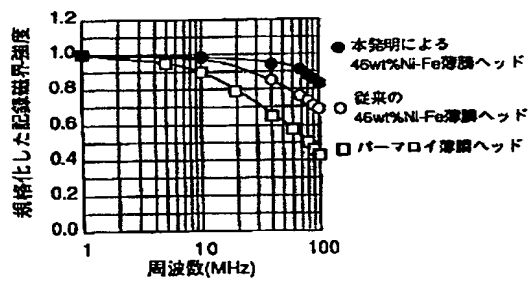
[Drawing 5]

図 5



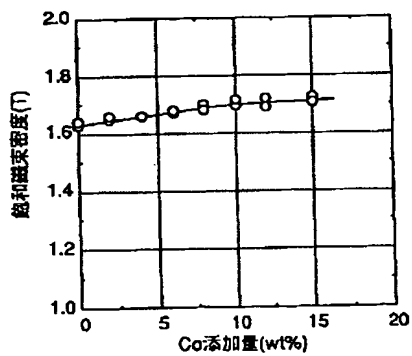
[Drawing 6]

図 6



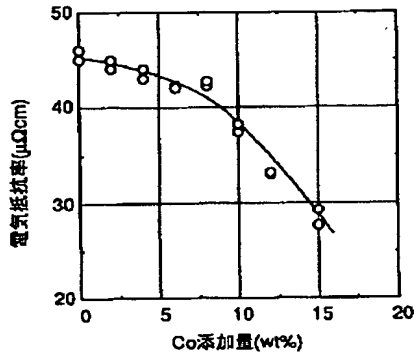
[Drawing 7]

図 7



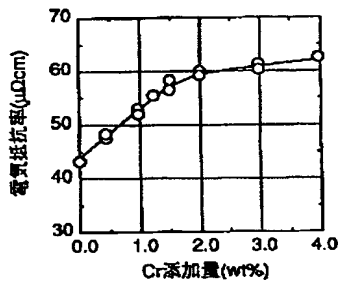
[Drawing 8]

図 8



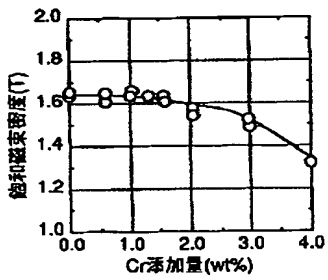
[Drawing 9]

図 9



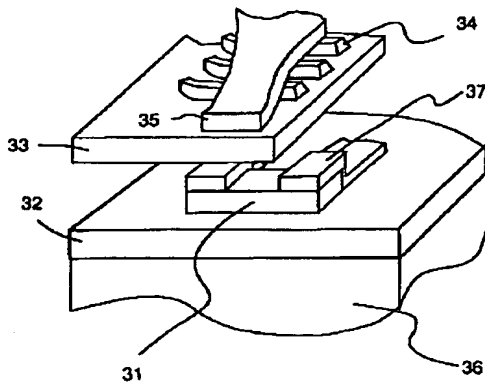
[Drawing 10]

図 10



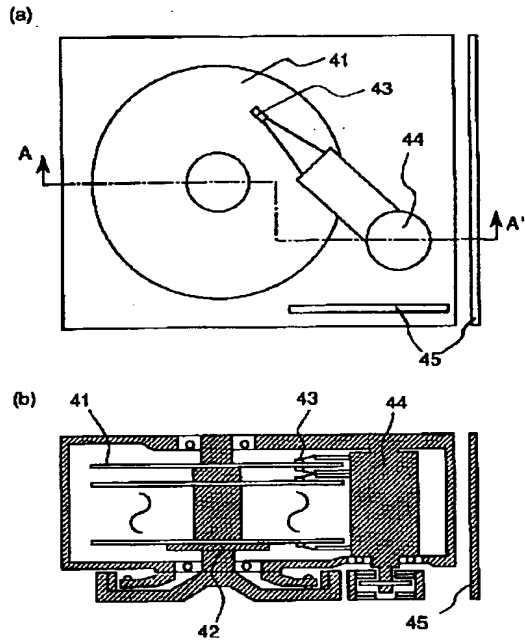
[Drawing 11]

図 11



[Drawing 12]

図 12



[Translation done.]

(11)特許出願公開番号

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 下部磁性膜と、上記下部磁性膜上に形成され一端が下部磁性膜の一端に接しており、他端が上記下部磁性膜の他端に磁気ギャップを介して対向し、磁気回路を形成する上記上部磁性膜と、上記両磁性膜の間に電氣的に絶縁された膜を介して、磁気コアと交差する所定巻回数のコイルからなり、少なくとも上記上部磁性膜が電めつき法によって形成された薄膜磁気ヘッドにおいて、上記上部磁性膜が、対向面に対し垂直方向に溝を形成した絶縁膜上に形成されたことを特徴とする薄膜磁気ヘッド。

【請求項2】 請求項1において、上記磁性膜がNiとFeを主成分とする合金からなり、Ni組成が、40～60wt%である薄膜磁気ヘッド。

【請求項3】 請求項1または請求項2において、めつき浴のNi++金属イオンおよびFe++金属イオン濃度範囲が、それぞれ5～20g/l、0.5～2.7g/lであり、Ni++金属イオンとFe++金属イオンの濃度比(Ni++/Fe++)が6～8である溶媒からなるめつき浴であり、かつ、応力緩和剤、界面活性剤が添加されており、pHが2.5～3.5、浴温度が20～40℃であるめつき浴から磁性膜が形成された薄膜磁気ヘッド。

【請求項4】 請求項1、2または3において、Ni-Fe合金に、Co、Cr、Mo、Pd、B、In、Wから選ばれる少なくとも1種類の元素が添加されており、Coの添加量は15wt%以下、その他の元素の添加量は総量で3wt%以下である薄膜磁気ヘッド。

【請求項5】 請求項1、2、3または4に記載の上記薄膜磁気ヘッドと多層磁気抵抗効果素子とを組み合わせた複合型磁気ヘッド。

【請求項6】 請求項1、2、3、4または5に記載の上記磁気ヘッドを搭載した磁気記録再生装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

【0001】

【発明の属する技術分野】 本発明は、高い磁気記録密度に対応した磁気ヘッド、磁気記録再生装置に関する。

【0002】

【従来の技術】 近年、磁気ディスク装置の高記録密度化に伴い、高い保磁力の媒体に記録できる薄膜磁気ヘッドが要求されている。そのためには、磁気ヘッドのコア材料には、高い飽和磁束密度を有し、かつ高周波特性に優れた材料を用いる必要がある。現在の薄膜磁気ヘッド材料は、パーマロイ(78wt%Ni-Fe合金)が公知であるが、飽和磁束密度が1.0Tと低く、かつ、比抵抗が20μΩcm程度と低いため、うず電流損失が大きく、高周波領域における記録磁界強度が低下する問題がある。また、他の材料として、Co系非晶質材料、センダスト(Fe-Al-Si合金)等が挙げられるが、非晶質材料は熱的に不安定であり、センダストは500℃程度の熱処理が必要であることなどから、磁気ヘッドブ

ロセス上に問題があり、実用化には至っていない。

【0003】 また、高周波に対応した薄膜ヘッド材料として、40～55wt%Ni-Fe合金にNb、Ta、Cr、Mo等を添加したスパッタリング法で形成する磁性膜が提案されている(特開平3-68744号公報)。しかし、この膜をスパッタリング法で2μm以上形成すると、結晶粒は大きくなる。この膜は、大きな結晶磁気異方性を有しているため、磁気特性が劣化してしまうという問題がある。

【0004】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】 高い磁気記録密度を有する磁気ディスク装置には、高い飽和磁束密度を有し、かつ、高周波で記録磁界強度が低下しない材料を用いた薄膜磁気ヘッドを用いることが必要である。めつき法で作製した40～60wt%Ni-Fe合金は、1.4T以上の高い飽和磁束密度を有し、5μmもの厚い膜を形成しても磁気特性は劣化しない。また、比抵抗も30μΩcm以上と高いため、うず電流損失が小さい。しかし、Ni-Fe合金の磁歪定数は40/10⁷と高い。このため、磁気コア形状、めつき面の凹凸等の影響を受けやすく、膜に大きな応力が働くめつき法で磁気コアを作製した場合に、良好な磁区構造が得られにくい。このため、高周波領域で高い保磁力を有する媒体に記録することが困難となっている。

【0005】 本発明の目的は、薄膜磁気ヘッドの問題の解決方法を提供することにある。

【0006】

【課題を解決するための手段】 本発明者等は、薄膜磁気ヘッドにおける磁気コア材料について、誠意研究を行った結果、40～60wt%Ni-Fe合金を、対向面に対し垂直方向に溝を形成した絶縁膜上にめつき法で形成することにより、対向面に対し平行に向いた磁区が安定して形成されることを見出し、本発明を完成するに至った。

【0007】 すなわち、めつき法で作製される40～60wt%Ni-Fe合金を、薄膜磁気ヘッドの磁気コアに用いる場合、対向面に対し垂直方向に溝を形成した絶縁膜上に形成することにより、膜の応力を対向面に対し平行方向にかけることができる。これにより、正の大きな磁歪定数を有する40～60wt%Ni-Fe合金は、膜の応力を受けて、主磁区の磁化が対向面に対し平行方向に向いた適正な磁区構造が得られ、高周波に対応できる薄膜磁気ヘッドが得られる。

【0008】 また、Ni-Fe合金に、Coを添加することにより更に高い飽和磁束密度が得られる。また、Mo、Cr、Pd、B、In、W等の元素を添加することにより、比抵抗が高くなり、うず電流損失が低下する。これらの効果により、更に高い周波数特性を有する薄膜磁気ヘッドが得られる。

【0009】 さらに、薄膜磁気ヘッドを用いることによ

り、高い磁気記録密度を有した磁気記録再生装置が得られる。

【0010】

【発明の実施の形態】

(実施例1) 図1に金属イオン濃度を変化させてめっきした磁性膜の組成と飽和磁束密度、電気抵抗率、磁歪定数の関係を示したものである。ここで、めっき浴は、表1に示す浴を用い、 Ni^{++} の濃度を変化させた。ここで、 pH は3.0、浴温度は30℃、めっき電流密度は15mA/cm²とし、膜厚は約3.0μmとした。

【0011】

【表1】

表 1

$\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	34.7 g/l
$\text{NiSO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	16.5 g/l
$\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$	7.3 g/l
H_3BO_3	25 g/l
NaCl	25 g/l
サッカリンNa	1.5 g/l
ラウリル硫酸Na	0.1 g/l

【0012】 図1に示すように、 Ni 含有量が40~60wt%の領域で、飽和磁束密度が1.4T以上、電気抵抗率は30μΩcm以上と従来良く知られているパーマロイ膜と比較して優れている。また、保磁力も1.0Oe以下と低い。しかし、本実施例の Ni-Fe 合金膜は、磁歪定数が+40/10⁷以上と高くなっている。このような特性は、 pH が2.5~3.5の範囲、電流密度は5~30mA/cm²の範囲、浴温度は20~40℃の範囲で変化させたが、大きく変わらなかった。

【0013】 図2に薄膜磁気ヘッドの断面を示す。基板11には、表面を十分に研磨、洗浄したセラミックス基板を用いた。基板11上に、下部磁性膜12として、厚さ2.8μmの窒素を含んだパーマロイ(78wt% Ni-Fe)薄膜を高周波スパッタリング法で作製した。この窒素を含んだ Ni-Fe 膜の磁気特性は、保磁力が0.5Oe、飽和磁束密度が1.0T、磁歪定数が-1.0/10⁷であった。下部磁性膜12をイオンミリングにより、所定の形状にパターニング後、 Al_2O_3 からなる磁気ギャップ膜13をスパッタし、イオンミリング法によりパターニングを行った。次に、ホトレジストからなる絶縁膜14を塗布、露光、現像、熱処理により、所定の形状にパターニングした。絶縁膜14上に、 Cu からなるコイル15をめっき法により作製後、絶縁膜16を形成、所定の形状にパターニングした。絶縁膜16上に、フレームめっき法により、厚さ3μmの Ni-Fe 合金からなる上部磁性膜17を形成した。最後に、 Al_2O_3 からなる保護膜18を形成した。

【0014】 図3には、上部磁性膜17のフレームめっき法による形成法を示す。基板21(図1の16に相当

する)上に、基板と磁性膜との密着性を高めるため、30nm厚の Cr 層22を、さらにめっきをするための電極として80nm厚の窒素を含んだパーマロイ磁性下地膜23を高周波スパッタリング法により形成した。次に、ホトレジストによりフレーム24を形成し、電気めっき法により3μm厚の Ni-Fe 合金磁性膜25を形成した(a)。めっき後、フレーム内のめっき磁性膜をホトレジスト26でカバーし(b)、フレーム外側のめっき膜をケミカルエッチングを用いて除去し、上部レジスト26およびフレーム24を除去する(c)。この時のめっき浴は、表1に示す組成を用いた。これにより、形成された磁性膜の組成は、46wt% Ni-Fe であった。この Ni-Fe 合金の磁気特性を調べたところ、保磁力は0.5Oe、飽和磁束密度は1.62T、磁歪定数は+50/10⁷であった。

【0015】 このように作製した薄膜磁気ヘッドにおける上部コアの磁区構造を観察した。磁区構造を図4に示す。通常、このような方法で薄膜磁気ヘッドを作製した場合、コイル15上に形成された絶縁膜16およびこの上に形成した上部磁性膜17は、コイル段差の影響を受け、対向面に対し、平行方向に凹凸が生じ易い。このため、磁歪定数が正で、かつ大きな磁性膜を用いた場合、膜の応力は対向面に対し垂直方向に働き、磁化が対向面に対し垂直に向きやすくなる。したがって、図4に示すような磁区構造を有する薄膜磁気ヘッドが多くなる。

【0016】 これに対し、絶縁膜16を形成後、イオンビームを用いて、対向面に対し垂直方向に溝を形成した。溝の大きさは、幅約1μm、深さは約80nmとした。また、幅の間隔は1μmとした。この上にフレームめっき法により上部磁性膜17を同様に形成し、磁区構造を観察したところ、図5に示すように、磁化が対向面に対し平行方向に向いた、すなわち適正な磁区構造を有する薄膜磁気ヘッドが多く得られた。これは、溝を形成したことにより、応力が対向面に対し平行に働くことによるものと考えられる。

【0017】 図5に示した磁区構造を持つ本発明の薄膜磁気ヘッドを用い、規格化した記録磁界強度の周波数依存性を調べた。これを図6に示す。磁気記録媒体には、残留磁束密度2500Oeの Co-Cr-Pt 系合金からなる材料を用いた。また、磁気ヘッドのトラック幅は3μmとした。図のように、従来のパーマロイ薄膜ヘッドと比較して、飽和磁束密度、電気抵抗率の高い40~60 Ni-Fe 合金薄膜ヘッドは、高周波でも高い記録磁界を有する。さらに、本発明の様に、磁区構造を適正化させることにより、70MHz以上の高周波領域でも、優れた記録性能を示すことがわかった。さらに、90MHzの周波数でも、15%程度しか記録磁界強度は低下しない。

【0018】 本実施例では、溝をイオンビームを照射することによって形成しているが、その他の方法を用い、

て、凹凸を形成しても構わない。また、溝の大きさは、作製の容易さを考慮すると、幅 $0.1\mu\text{m}\sim 10\mu\text{m}$ 、深さ $50\text{nm}\sim 0.5\mu\text{m}$ 、溝間隔 $0.1\mu\text{m}\sim 10\mu\text{m}$ 程度にすることが、好ましい。

【0019】(実施例2) 実施例1に示しためっき浴に、 $\text{CoSO}_4\cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ を添加して作製される厚さ $3\mu\text{m}$ の Ni-Fe-Co 薄膜の諸特性を評価した。図7にCo添加量に対する飽和磁束密度の変化を示す。図のように、Coを添加していくと飽和磁束密度は増加する。しかし、図8に示すように、Coを15wt%以上添加すると、電気抵抗率は、大きく減少し、 $30\mu\Omega\text{cm}$ 以下となってしまう。Coを15wt%以上添加した磁性膜を薄膜磁気ヘッドに用いた場合、うず電流損失の効果が大きくなり、飽和磁束密度が増加した効果が失われるため、好ましくない。

【0020】(実施例3) 実施例1に示しためっき浴に、 $\text{CrCl}_3\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ を添加して作製される厚さ $3\mu\text{m}$ の Ni-Fe-Cr 薄膜の諸特性を評価した。図9にCr添加量に対する電気抵抗率の変化を示す。図のように、Cr添加量が2wt%以上の時に、 $60\mu\Omega\text{cm}$ 程度の高い電気抵抗率が得られる。しかし、図10の飽和磁束密度のCr添加量依存性をみると、Crを3wt%以上添加すると、飽和磁束密度は大きく低下し、 1.4T 以下となる。このため、3wt%以上Crを添加することは好ましくない。

【0021】本実施例では、Crを添加した場合について述べたが、Mo, Pd, B, In, Wを添加した場合も同様な効果が得られる。

【0022】(実施例4) 実施例1で示した薄膜磁気ヘッドを用い、記録再生分離型ヘッドを作製した。磁気ヘッドの構造を以下に示す。図11は、磁気ヘッドの一部分を切断した場合の斜視図である。磁気抵抗効果膜31をシールド層32, 33で挟んだ部分が再生ヘッドとして働く。また、シールド層33は、記録ヘッドの下部磁極もかねており、コイル34を挟むシールド層33, 上部磁極35の部分が記録ヘッドとして働く。この記録ヘッドは、実施例1に記載の薄膜磁気ヘッドである。また、電極38には、 Cr/Cu/Cr という多層構造の材料を用いた。

【0023】以下にこのヘッドの作製方法を示す。

【0024】 $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\cdot \text{TiC}$ を主成分とする焼結体をスライダ用の基板36とした。シールド層32, 33にはスパッタリング法で形成した窒素を含んだパーマロイを用いた。各磁性膜の膜厚は、以下のようにした。上下のシールド層32, 33は $2.0\mu\text{m}$ 、上部磁極36は $3.0\mu\text{m}$ 、各層間のギャップ材はスパッタリングで形成した Al_2O_3 を用いた。ギャップ層の膜厚は、シールド層と磁気抵抗効果素子間で $0.2\mu\text{m}$ 、記録磁極間では $0.4\mu\text{m}$ とした。磁気抵抗効果膜31には、厚さ 20nm のパーマロイ膜を用いた。コイル34には膜厚 1

μm のCuを使用した。

【0025】以上述べた構造の磁気ヘッドで、記録再生を行ったところ、最高記録周波数が 70MHz 以上の高周波記録が可能であることがわかった。これは、磁気ヘッドに、本発明による磁気ヘッドを用いたためであると考えられる。

【0026】本実施例では、上部シールド層33は、スパッタリング法を用いているが、めっき法を用いて形成することもできる。

【0027】(実施例5) 実施例2で述べた本発明の磁気ヘッドを用い、磁気ディスク装置を作製した。図12に磁気ディスク装置の構造の概略図を示す。

【0028】磁気記録媒体41の記録層には、残留磁束密度 2500Oe の Co-Cr-Pt 系合金からなる材料を用いた。磁気ヘッド43の記録ヘッドのトラック幅は $2.5\mu\text{m}$ 、再生ヘッドのトラック幅は $2\mu\text{m}$ とした。磁気ヘッド43における記録ヘッドの磁気コア材料は、従来のパーマロイを用いた記録ヘッドと比較して、高抵抗、高飽和磁束密度を有し、かつ、磁極の磁区構造が良好であるため、高周波に対応した磁気ディスク装置を作製することができる。本発明の磁気ヘッドは、最高記録周波数が 70MHz 以上である磁気記録再生装置に有効である。

【0029】

【発明の効果】 下部磁性膜と、下部磁性膜上に形成され一端が下部磁性膜の一端に接しており、他端が下部磁性膜の他端に磁気ギャップを介して対向し、磁気回路を形成する上部磁性膜と、両磁性膜の間に電氣的に絶縁された膜を介して、磁気コアと交差する所定巻回数のコイルからなる薄膜磁気ヘッドであり、上部磁性膜が電気めっき法によって形成された薄膜磁気ヘッドで、対向面に対し、垂直方向に溝を形成した絶縁膜上に磁性膜を形成することにより、大きな磁歪定数を有する磁性膜を用いても、磁気コアの磁区構造は良好になる。これにより、高抵抗、高飽和磁束密度を有する $40\sim 60\text{wt}\%\text{Ni-Fe}$ 合金膜を記録ヘッドに用いることができる。また、この記録ヘッドを用いることにより、最高記録周波数が 70MHz 以上である磁気ヘッドが作製できる。さらに、磁気ヘッドを用いることにより、高性能磁気記録再生装置を得ることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】 Ni含有量に対する飽和磁束密度、電気抵抗率、磁歪定数の変化の説明図。

【図2】 薄膜磁気ヘッドの断面図。

【図3】 フレームめっき法の説明図。

【図4】 従来法による上部コアの磁区構造の説明図。

【図5】 本発明による上部コアの磁区構造の説明図。

【図6】 本発明の薄膜磁気ヘッドを用いた記録磁界強度の周波数依存性の特性図。

【図7】 Co添加量に対する飽和磁束密度の変化の特性

図。

【図8】Co添加量に対する電気抵抗率の変化の特性図。

【図9】Cr添加量に対する電気抵抗率の変化の特性図。

【図10】Cr添加量に対する飽和磁束密度の変化の特性図。

【図11】本発明の薄膜磁気ヘッドを用いた磁気ヘッド

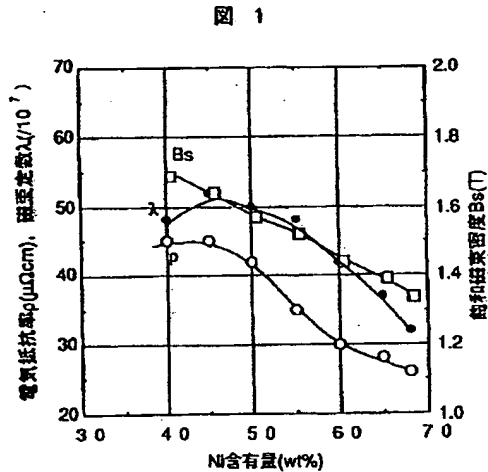
の斜視図。

【図12】本発明の薄膜磁気ヘッドを用いた磁気ディスク装置の説明図。

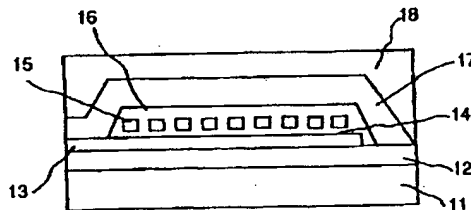
【符号の説明】

11…基板、12…下部磁性膜、13…磁気ギャップ膜、14、16…絶縁膜、15…コイル、17…上部磁性膜。

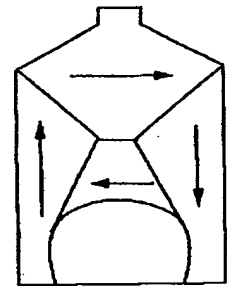
【図1】



【図2】

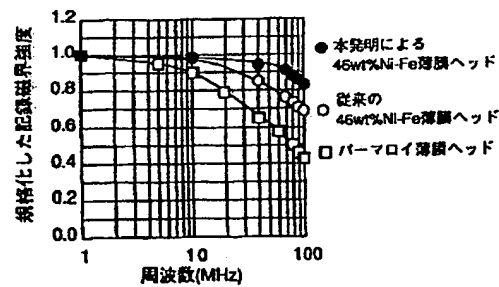


【図4】



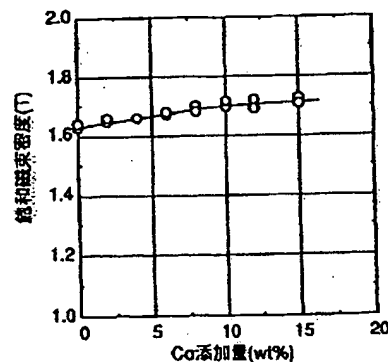
【図6】

図 6

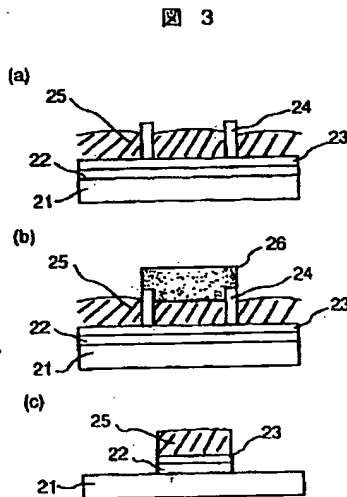


【図7】

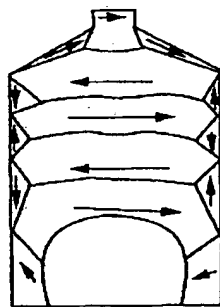
図 7



【図3】

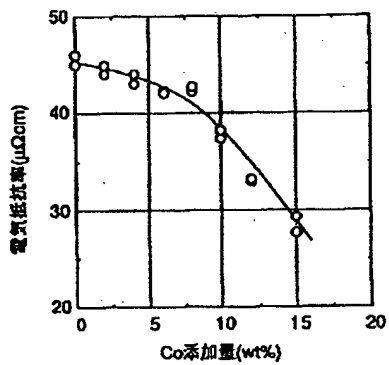


【図5】



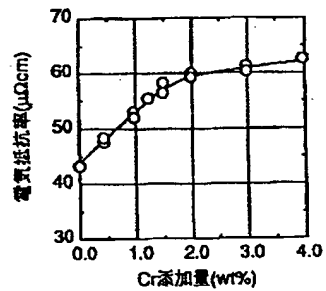
【図8】

図 8



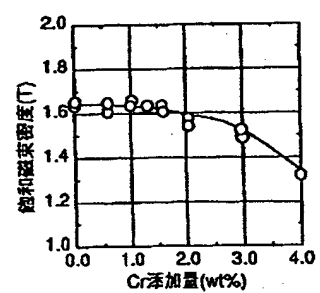
【図9】

図 9



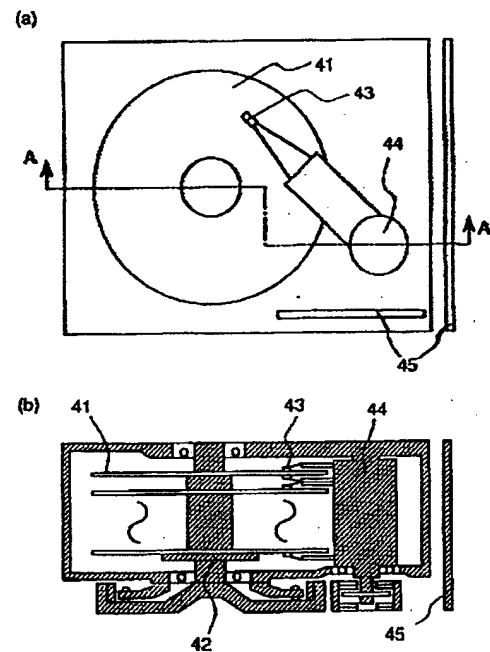
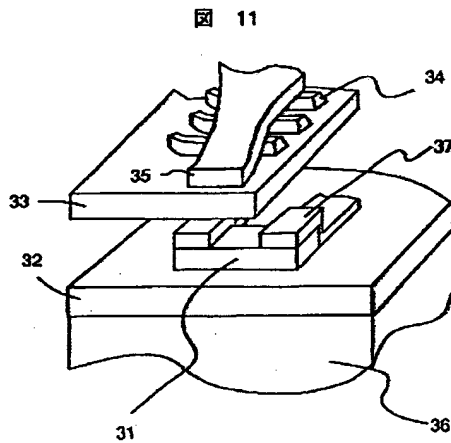
【図10】

図 10



【図12】

図 12



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